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CHANDLER E. WOODCOCK
COMMISSIONER

October 7, 2016

Dear Trapper:

As fall trapping seasons approach, I hope you're planning to take some time to enjoy our wonderful state in pursuit of your favorite furbearer species. As in previous years, we are sending updated information to all licensed trappers describing the regulations that trappers must follow in order to avoid the incidental capture of lynx. This year, we have also included a new DVD, which summarizes the regulations and also describes how the Department will respond in the event of that a lynx is captured. Please review this information carefully as you make preparations for the upcoming trapping season.

Later this month, we'll also be mailing all licensed trappers a copy of our new Trapping Lawbook. This booklet will combine all trapping laws and information into a single, easy to use document. We expect to mail the lawbook in mid-October before the start of the general trapping season and post it on our website (www.mefishwildlife.com/hunting_trapping/trapping).

The early fox and coyote season opens on Sunday, October 16th. In addition to the general trapping rules the following regulations also apply during this season:

- Traps must be set at or below ground level and checked daily
- Killer-type traps are not permitted.
- Traps may not be set in the water.
- The use of exposed bait or visible attractors is prohibited.
- You are allowed to keep any incidental opossum, raccoon, or skunk which you catch in your fox and coyote traps. Any other furbearing animal must be immediately released alive (except lynx – see information in this mailing), or if found dead, must be left in the trap and reported to a game warden as soon as possible.

Please be diligent in your efforts to follow the regulations and recommendations to reduce the chance of incidentally capturing a lynx outlined in the information provided in this mailing, video, and in the booklet "How to Avoid Incidental Take of Lynx", which is available on our website. Please remember that the Department operates a 24 hour hotline (207-592-4734) for reporting incidental captures of lynx. The Department appreciates the continued cooperation of trappers to report incidentally caught lynx and following all trapping regulations.

Sincerely,

Cory Mosby
Furbearer/Small Mammal Biologist